



Sociology & Anthropology

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Introduction to Sociology

Sociology involves the systematic study of social life to understand the causes and consequences of human action. Sociologists study the structure and processes of modern, industrial societies. They examine how social structures—groups, organizations, and communities—and social institutions—family, education, religion, and more—affect human attitudes, actions, and life chances.

Sociology combines scientific and humanistic perspectives in the study of society. Sociologists use various theoretical perspectives to understand such areas as culture, socialization, deviance, inequality, family patterns, social change, and race and ethnic relations. Combining theoretical perspectives with empirical research allows for constant testing and refinement of knowledge in the field of sociology.

Sociology offers students an opportunity to develop new insights and different perspectives on their lives, and to understand everyday social life as a combination of both stable patterns of interaction and ubiquitous sources of social change.

Introduction to Anthropology

We examine the various ways that people make cultural meaning out of their lives. We explore the anthropologist's methods of delineating out patterns and identifying relationships of meaning and practice between domains of social life.

How do anthropologists come to understand people's constructions of reality? Why is the concept of culture important for understanding the world in all of its diversity and similarity? How do we study local concerns in relationship to global processes and structures?

The goal of the Anthropology program is to provide students with the tools to understand better how other people live and perceive the world, as well as understand their own practices, beliefs, and worldview.

Options in the Study of Sociology and Anthropology

Majors and minors are offered in both sociology and anthropology. Beyond the department itself, the faculty are centrally involved in American Studies, Global Studies, and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Many opportunities are available for independent research and internships. Both anthropology and sociology have Honors programs.

Sample Courses in Sociology

- Across the Pond: Europe vs. U.S.A.
- Conformity, Deviance, and Institutional Social Control
- Environmental Sociology
- Foundations of Society: Introduction to Social Analysis
- Governing Medicine, Health and the Body
- Life and Times of Malcolm X
- Masculinities
- On Drugs: Pleasure, Panic, & Punishment
- Power, Control and Resistance
- Race and Ethnicity in America
- Race, Class, and Schooling
- Social Change in a Global Perspective
- Social Inequalities
- Social Movements
- Sociological Research Methods and Data Analysis
- Sociological Theory
- Sociology of Black Families
- Sociology of Gender and Sexuality
- Sociology of Health and Illness
- Sport in Society
- Youth and Society

Sample Courses in Anthropology

- Anthropology of Human Rights
- Anthropology of Tourism
- Biopolitics in Medical Anthropology
- Borders and Migration
- Borders and Walls
- Business & Morality: Qualities into Quantities
- Cultural Theory
- Divas, Cowboys, and Outlaws: US Borderland through Film

- Field Methods in Ethnography
- Global Humanitarianism
- Health and Migration
- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- Law and Order: Anthropology of Justice
- Medicine and Health from a Global and Anthropological Perspective
- Middle East & North Africa: Reading Ethnography through Film and Literature
- Sexuality and Gender Across Cultures
- Technology, Surveillance, and the Media

Graduate School Acceptances

- American University
- Boston College
- Columbia University
- Duke School of Medicine
- Duke School of Law
- Emory University
- Florida Institute of Technology
- The George Washington University
- London School of Economics and Political Science
- New York University
- New York University School of Social Work
- Oxford University
- Roger Williams University
- Temple University
- Beasley School of Law
- University College London
- UC Berkeley School of Law
- University of California Los Angeles
- University of Connecticut School of Law
- University of Illinois, Chicago
- University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
- University of Maryland, Francis King Carey School of Law
- University of Richmond Law School
- University of South Carolina
- Virginia Tech Center for Public Administration and Policy
- University of Virginia Darden Graduate School of Business Administration
- University of Virginia School of Law
- VCU Brandcenter
- VCU School of Social Work

Recent Graduate Employment

- Bon Secours Health System
- Boston College School of Law
- Capital One Financial Corporation
- CDR Fundraising Group
- Commonwealth Strategy Group
- CrossOver Ministry
- Deloitte Consulting LLP
- Epic Systems Corporation
- Faison School for Autism
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Genworth Financial
- Giant Spoon, NYC
- Hajoca Corporation
- Heifer Project International
- Impact Alabama
- InfraMap Corporation
- Ketchum Inc.
- Match Corps
- Mathematica
- Mercy Corporation
- Myriad Genetics
- National Basketball Association
- National Football Association
- Nulogy Corporation
- PIVOT Foundation
- Pricewaterhouse Coopers
- Prophet Consulting NYC
- Quaker Voluntary Service
- Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Richmond International Raceway
- Superior Court of the State of Connecticut
- Teach for America
- TEKsystems
- The Peace Corps
- The Susan Hicks Group, PLC
- The Walt Disney Company
- Tufts University School of Medicine-Development
- University of Richmond Office of Admission
- Urban Teachers

Faculty

Visit socanth.richmond.edu/faculty for a full list of faculty.



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May 2023